

## **USAG Kaiserslautern home of the Army's largest dog kennel**

MIESAU, Germany – A working dog never had it so good. Accommodations in the Kaiserslautern area for military K-9s have been upgraded to five-star hotel status with the grand opening of the Army's largest dog kennel May 19 at Miesau Army Depot.

Construction of new kennels and renovation of the existing 1970's facilities cost almost \$750,000 and took 18 months to complete, said Razeq Torakai, the IMA-EURO garrison's manager for the kennels. The new facilities can house 60 dogs at a time, and offer a 41-by-41-meter training space for dog teams to practice their skills. The kennels are surrounded by a wooded area, providing ample room for the dogs and their handlers to conduct scouting training.

The new facilities are also a welcome sight for the dogs' two-legged friends. Handlers returning from downrange now have reserved rooms on Miesau and work space in a new administration building adjacent to the kennels.

Last year, more than 180 Army and Navy dogs passed through the Kaiserslautern area from four theaters involved in the Global War on Terrorism. Travel-weary canines sometimes had to spend the night in their carrying cases. The new Miesau facility means there will be comfortable and well equipped space to house and train dogs assigned to the Kaiserslautern area as well as those enroute to new assignments.

(Our thanks to Christine June, Public Affairs Office, USAG Kaiserslautern)